



Home of
Travis Air Force Base

CITY OF FAIRFIELD

Founded 1856

Incorporated December 12, 1903

September 23, 2004

COUNCIL

Mayor
Karin MacMillan
707.428.7395
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Harry T. Price
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John English
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Kevin O'Rourke
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City Attorney
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707.428.7419
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City Clerk
Arietta K. Cortright
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DEPARTMENTS

Community Services
707.428.7465
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707.428.7496
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707.428.7375
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Human Resources
707.428.7394
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Planning &
Development
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Police
707.428.7551
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Public Works
707.428.7485

Judge Peter B. Foor
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
c/o Superior Court Executive Office/Clerk of the Court
Hall of Justice
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

Subject: Response to the Annual Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Foor:

The 2003/2004 Solano County Grand Jury Report included the interoperability of radio and data between the county's police, fire and medical agencies. The following are responses to the findings and recommendations regarding radio and data interoperability:

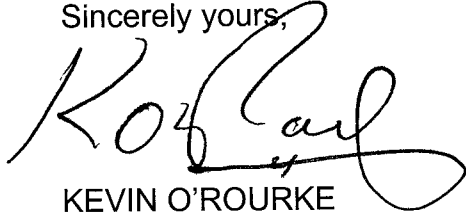
3. Finding: If an emergency incident should escalate beyond the agency's capacity and the need to request mutual aid from another agency should be necessary, the current communication systems would hamper responsibilities, as each agency's communication system operates independently with no coordination and little interoperability among police, fire and medical agencies. This finding was part of the 2002/2003 Solano County Grand Jury Report. It appears that no progress has taken place to rectify this problem.

Recommendation: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has made it clear that funding is available for a variety of needs at the local level, but the process to determine those needs is slow and difficult. As a temporary solution to the countywide communication system, the county estimates that \$3,000,000 would provide a system that would link agencies appropriately when significant multi-response is required. Rather than each city or the county pursuing the available funds, all agencies should jointly ascertain what U.S. Department of Homeland Security is requiring and whether those needs can be met for this project. With the County Office of Emergency Services acting as the lead

agency, they could develop a grant application that represents all of the agencies in Solano County.

Response: The City of Fairfield disagrees partially with the finding as there have been steps taken to further address the radio and data interoperability issue since the report was published. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been developed for Joint Solano Communications Activities (SECA), where the entities within Solano County agreed to work on implementing the interoperability needs assessment submitted by RCC Consultants. All parties to the MOU have the approval of their policy-making bodies to enter into the agreement. The recommendation to develop a grant application to support the efforts of SECA will occur as the committee analyzes and recommends the appropriate technology to the County for implementation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K O'Rourke", with a stylized flourish at the end.

KEVIN O'ROURKE
City Manager

C: Mike Johnson, Solano CAO/Clerk of the Board of Supervisors